

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Michael F. Easley, Governor

Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

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December 15, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Legislative Oversight Committee

Local CFAC Chairs

NC Council of Community Programs

County Managers
State Facility Directors
LME Board Chairs
Advocacy Organizations

NC Assoc. of County DSS Directors

Commission for MH/DD/SAS

State CFAC

NC Assoc. of County Commissioners

County Board Chairs

LME Directors

DHHS Division Directors Provider Organizations

MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations

FROM:

L. Allen Dobson, Jr., MD (AD W

Mike Moseley mm w

SUBJECT:

Implementation Update #22

Extension of Implementation Date of CAP-MR/DD Waiver Changes

Implementation Update # 19 announced a change to the CAP-MR/DD waiver related to families and guardians providing services to consumers. That document indicated that a Technical Amendment had been submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to receive federal approval of the policy changes.

Since announcing the new policy, we have heard from many families with questions and concerns, especially as the new policy applies to parents who have been appointed legal guardians of their adult children and also serve as the paid caregiver for those consumers. CMS approved the Technical Amendment on November 20, 2006 and it had been our intention to implement it February 1, 2007. However, in order to ensure that families have adequate time to carefully consider any adjustments they may need to make to be in compliance with the policy, we have decided to postpone the implementation date until April 1, 2007. This extension will also permit the Department of Health and Human Services to carefully consider the input we have received and determine if any modifications should be made to the policy.

Questions regarding this communication should be directed to ContactDMH@ncmail.net.

cc:

Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom

Mark Benton
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DMI/DD/SAS Executive Leadersh

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